## Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 03542 200237Z

72 (43)

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 /018 W

----- 098920

R 191145Z MAY 75 FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1272

**UNCLAS JIDDA 3542** 

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y -- MRN 3542 VICE 1272 --

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: BGEN, SA

SUBJECT: WTDR AND ADS BACKLOG

- 1. APPRECIATE COMMERCE COOPERATION. EMBASSY SHARES COMMERCE DISTASTE FOR THE IDEA OF A MORATORIUM, AND SUGGESTED IT ONLY AS A POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE IN EXTREMUM.
- 2. ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN COST ESTIMATES FOR CONTRACTING SERVICES. SUCH ACTION MIGHT PROVE EVEN MORE USEFUL FOR ADS THAN FOR WTDR WORK, AS PROBLEMS OF OBJECTIVITY NOT AS GREAT.
- 3. WITH REGARD TO ADS'S PRELIMINARY GUIDELINES AS TO BEST AND LEAST MARKET POTENTIAL AS FOLLOWS:
  LEAST POTENTIAL: INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT AND HIGH
  TECHNOLOGY GADGETRY WHICH PRE-SUPPOSES A DEVELOPED
  INDIGENOUS REPEAT INDIGENOUS INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY.
  WHILE THERE MAY BE IN MANY CASES ACTUAL AND GROWING
  REQUIREMENTS FOR SUCH ITEMS, THESE ARE MOST FREQUENTLY
  IN THE CONTEXT OF TURN-KEY AND/OR OPERATIONS AND
  MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS, OR JOINT VENTURES, WITH
  FOREIGN FIRMS WHOSE PROCUREMENT IS PRIMARILY THRU
  HOME OFFICE CHANNELS, SOME EXAMPLES AT RANDOM ARE
  OSCILLOSCOPES, PROCESS-CONTROL EQUIPMENT, POLLUTION-CONTROL DEVICES, ETC.

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GOOD POTENTIAL: CONSUMER PRODUCTS IN GENERAL INCLUDING

ESPECIALLY HOME FURNISHINGS AND AUDIO-VISUAL (IF COMPETITIVE WITH JAPANESE); CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS; HOSPITAL SUPPLIES.

IN GENERAL THE GREATEST POTENTIAL IS NOT NOT FOR MANU-FACTURES AS SUCH AS MUCH AS FOR "SERVICES," I.E. CONTRACTING, CONSULTANCY, PROJECT MANAGEMENT, FOOD-FRANCHISING, ETC., AND IT IS SUCCESS IN THESE AREAS WHICH LEADS TO SUCCESS IN PRODUCT EXPORTS. FINE GEOGRAPHIC DISTINCTIONS CAN ALSO BE VITAL -- E.G. AN ADS REQUEST FOR A PRODUCT RELATED TO THE OIL INDUSTRY MIGHT DRAW A BLANK IN JIDDA BUT GO OVER VERY WELL IN DHAHRAN. ALSO, MARKET PSYCHOLOGY CAN BE VERY IMPORTANT. A PERCEIVED INCIPIENT SAG REQUIREMENT MAY SUDDENLY TRANSFORM A PREVIOUSLY IGNORED PRODUCT (OR SERVICE) INTO A VERY HOT ITEM; FAILURE OF EXPECTED DEVELOPMENTS MAY CAUSE AN ABRUPT DROP IN INTEREST. SUCH CONSIDERATIONS MAKE IT DANGEROUS TO GENERALIZE ABOUT BEST AND POOREST POTENTIAL. WHEN IN DOUBT, WE URGE COMMERCE TO FORWARD REQUESTS AND LET US MAKE DETERMINATIONS ON THE SPOT. AKINS

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

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Subject: WTDR AND ADS BACKLOG

TAGS: BGEN, SA To: STATE

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